

Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture
 Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
 Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner



Wednesday, October 31, 2018

EIGHT THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE PUMPKIN (BUT WANT TO)

The New England Historical Society (<http://www.newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/eight-things-didnt-know-pumpkin-want/>)

If the English colonists knew how much pumpkin, or pompion, they'd eat when they arrived in New England, they might have had second thoughts about coming.

That's not to dismiss the pumpkin's many fine qualities. It's just that some colonists got sick of eating the fruit they called pompion, especially during hard winters.

For many, pompions made the difference between starvation and survival. Colonists grew them easily and in abundance, and they could store pumpkins all winter.

A colonial cook could do just about anything with a pompion. She could make them into pies, stews, tarts, soups and puddings. Or she could boil them, roast them, fry them or mash them. She could dry the seeds and salt them.

Here are eight other things you may not know about pompions.

THE PUMPKIN

1. The early colonists ate so much pompion they included it in the first American folk song, New England Annoyances, or Forefathers Song:

*Instead of pottage and puddings and custards and pies,
 Our pumpkins and parsnips are common supplies;
 We have pumpkins at morning and pumpkins at noon,
 If it was not for pumpkins we should be undone!
 (Read the lyrics to the whole song [here](#).)*

2. Much as Wisconsinites are known as 'cheeseheads,' New Englanders were called 'Pompkins.' 'Pompkinshire' described 'Boston and its dependencies,' according to Francis Grose in A Classical Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue, published in London in 1796. In a letter to the editor of American Farmer in 1833, the writer stated he had "traveled through the 'Land of Steady Habits,' or 'Pumpkin Dominion' (I mean the New England States." And a biographer of Horace Greeley described him as belonging 'to the nasal, angular, psalm-singing, pumpkin-growing generation.'



Pumpkins at Lapsley Orchard in Pomfret

3. Pumpkin is a diuretic, as a 17th century traveler named John Josselyn pointed out. In Josselyn's 1671 book, New-England's Rarities, he published one of the oldest surviving pumpkin recipes. "It provokes Urine extreamly," wrote Josselyn, (he was right), and 'is very windy' { it isn't). (For a stewed pumpkin recipe, click [here](#).)

4. Henry David Thoreau likely grew the first giant pumpkin in America. He wrote in his book Wild Fruit In the spring of 1857: I planted six seeds sent from the Patent Office and labelled, I think, Potiron Jaune Grosse – Large Yellow Pumpkin (or Squash). Two came up and one has become a pumpkin which weighed 123 ½ pounds. The other bore four weighing together 186 ¼ pounds. The big pumpkin 'took a premium at the Middlesex Show' that fall.

5. The Pilgrims at Plimoth Plantation likely ate stewed or baked pompion, rather than pompion pie. But pumpkin pie came into its own in the late 18th century, and Abigail Adams had a recipe for it. She used molasses rather than sugar, which made the pie a bit tart. For updated versions of Abigail's pumpkin pie, click [here](#) or [here](#).

6. Pumpkins have many health benefits, which may be why they kept the early colonists alive. Native Americans used them to treat urinary infections (see John Josselyn) and intestinal worms. Pumpkins have lots of: fiber, which can lower blood pressure; Vitamin A, which aids vision; Vitamin C; potassium, which balance electrolytes; and beta-carotene, which may help prevent cancer. Pumpkin seeds have a variety of antioxidants, which can reduce inflammation; they are linked to a reduced risk of cancer; they're high in magnesium, which reduces blood pressure; and they're loaded with tryptophan, which promotes sleep. They may also improve insulin regulation in diabetics.

7. People probably made the first jack o'lanterns from turnips or mangelwurzels, a kind of beet. Making jack o'lanterns at Halloween started in Ireland and the

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NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.09	1.37
LARGE	1.03	1.17
MEDIUM	.67	.80

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.74	1.89
LARGE	1.65	1.79
MEDIUM	1.16	1.26
SMALL	.82	.92

LANCASTER, PA LIVESTOCK

Avg. Dressing. Per cwt. Unless noted.

SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Choice 2-3	104.00	109.00
Select 1-2	95.50	104.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
Choice 2-3	77.00	83.00
Select 1-2	71.00	76.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	104.50	106.50
Choice 2-3	102.00	104.00
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 100-118 lbs	85.00	87.00
No 1 90-98 lbs	55.00	55.00
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	45.00	49.00
boners 80-85% lean	45.00	49.00
lean 88-90% lean	38.00	45.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
90-110 lbs	170.00	190.00
110-130 lbs	160.00	180.00
130-150 lbs	140.00	155.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	70.00	90.00
120-160 lbs	60.00	90.00
160-200 lbs	55.00	85.00
200-300 lbs	50.00	80.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Sel 1		
20-40 lbs	110.00	140.00
40-60 lbs	145.00	170.00
80-100 lbs	195.00	235.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel 1		
80-130 lbs	160.00	185.00
130-180 lbs	185.00	230.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Sel 1		
80-100 lbs	205.00	225.00
100-150 lbs	230.00	265.00
150-250 lbs	265.00	350.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

SLAUGHTER HOGS		
52-56	200-300 lbs	50.00 58.00
	300-350 lbs	50.00 54.00
	350-400 lbs	44.00 45.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	39.00 54.00
	300-350 lbs	35.00 45.00
	350-400 lbs	31.00 39.00
Sows, US 1-3		
	300-500 lbs	36.00 38.50
	500-550 lbs	34.50 37.00
Boars		
	1@ 735 lbs	5.00 5.00

USDA-BOSTON MARKET POTATOES

New England prices per 50 lb carton.

RUSSET		
NORKOTAH, 60	16.00	18.00
NORKOTAH, 70	16.00	18.00
NORKOTAH, 80	15.00	18.00
NORKOTAH, 90	16.00	18.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices CONNECTICUT AND NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LBS	14.00	15.00
APPLE, CRT LND, 80, TRYPK, XFCY	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRT LND, 88, TRYPK, XFCY	30.00	31.00
APPLE, CRT LAND, NG, LOOSE	18.00	18.00
APPLE, GALA, LOOSE, NG	22.00	22.00
APPLE, HONYCRISP, 80, XFCY	65.00	65.00
APPLE, HONYCRISP, 88, XFCY	65.00	65.00
APPLE, MAC, 80, CRT, XFCY	31.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, 88, CRT, XFCY	30.00	32.00
APPLE, MAC, 100, CRT, XFCY	26.00	26.00
APPLE, MAC, 125, #1, CTN/TRYPK	17.00	18.00
APPLE, MAC, 138, #1, CTN/TRYPK	17.00	18.00
APPLE, MAC, LOOSE, NG	18.00	18.00
APPLE, MACOUN, 80, TRYPK, XFCY	38.00	38.00
APPLE, CRISPIN, NG, LOOSE	20.00	22.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	6.00	7.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BROCC, CRN CUT, 20 LB LOOSE	20.00	22.00
BROCC, BNCHED, 14	19.00	19.00
CAULIFLOWER, WH, JKTPK, 9	15.00	16.00
CAULIFLOWER, WH, JKTPK, 12	15.00	16.00
CIDER, 4-1 GALLON	19.00	19.00
CIDER, 9-1/2 GALLON	21.00	21.00
CORN, ORN, INDIAN, BNCH, 20-3	45.00	50.00
CORN, ORN, BLUE MINI, 20-3	28.00	32.00
CORN, ORN, MINI STRAWB, 20-3	28.00	32.00
CORN, ORN, MINI POPCORN, 20-3	28.00	32.00
CORN, POPCORN, 20-3	45.00	50.00
CORNSTALKS, /BUNDLE, 5	5.00	8.00
CRANBERRY, ERLYBLCK, 24-12OZ	28.00	32.00
GOURDS, ORNAMENT, 1/2 BU	14.00	16.00
GOURDS, ORN, SHELLACK 1/2 BU	22.00	25.00
PMPKN, CNDERL, OR, 24"BIN, L	285.00	300.00
PMPKN, FAIRYTL, OR, 24"BIN, L	285.00	300.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, OR, 36"BIN, JBO	180.00	225.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, OR, 36"BIN, XL	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, OR, 36"BIN, L	150.00	200.00
PMPKN, HOWDN, WH, 24"BIN, JBO	285.00	400.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 1/2 BU, M	20.00	25.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 24"BIN, M	250.00	285.00
PMPKN, PIE, OR, 36"BIN, M	270.00	300.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36"BIN, JB	200.00	225.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36"BIN, XL	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36"BIN, L	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36"BIN, M	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, BGMACK, OR, 36"BIN, S	175.00	200.00
PMPKN, HEIRLOOM, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	20.00
PMPKN, MINI, FLAT, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	20.00
PUMPKN, MINI, ROUND, 1/2 BU, S	18.00	20.00
RUTABAGAS, 50 LB, CRT, M	35.00	36.00
SQUASH, ACORN, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, ACORN, 1-1/9, L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, BUTTERCUP, 1-1/9, L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, L	16.00	20.00
SQUASH, BUTTERNUT, 1-1/9, XL	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, CARNIVAL, 1-1/9, L	20.00	24.00
SQUASH, DELICATA, 1-1/9, L	20.00	24.00
SQUASH, BLUE HUB, 1-1/9, L	20.00	24.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, KABOCHA, 1-1/9, L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9, M-L	15.00	18.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9, L	15.00	18.00
STRAW BALE, STAND, 1 BALE	7.00	8.00
STRAW BALE, MINI, 1 BALE	4.50	5.50
TOMS, GHS, 25LBS, VINERIPE, S-M	15.00	15.00
TOMS, GHS, CHERRY, 5 LBS, S-M	15.00	15.00
TOM, GHS, CHERRY, 10 LB CRT, S-M	19.00	19.50
TOM, GHS, ONVINE, 5 LB FLAT, S-M	15.00	15.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - October 29, 2018

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	28.00	35.00
61-75 lbs.	40.00	42.50
76-90 lbs.	45.00	50.00
91-105 lbs.	55.00	60.00
106 lbs. & up	70.00	180.00
Farm Calves	195.00	215.00
Starter Calves	22.00	24.00
Veal Calves	90.00	120.00
Feeder Heifers	80.00	120.00
Beef Heifers	76.00	90.00
Feeder Steers	70.00	122.50
Beef Steers	85.00	115.00
Feeder Bulls	90.00	135.00
Beef Bulls	75.00	140.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	1@	45.00
Sows	24.00	29.00
Butcher Hogs	57.50	65.00
Feeder Pigs each	15.00	80.00
Sheep each	70.00	220.00
Lambs each	80.00	240.00
Goats each	95.00	297.50
Kid Goats each	70.00	85.00
Canners	up to	54.00
Cutters	55.00	60.00
Utility Grade Cows	62.50	65.00
Rabbits each	4.00	20.00
Chickens each	3.00	19.00
Ducks each	5.00	27.50

The Auction will be held November 12.

BOSTON MARKET FALL CROPS

Wholesale. \$/unit listed.

BEETS, NJ, BUNCHED, 12	18.00	20.00
BEETS, GOLD, BNCHED, 12	14.00	16.00
BRUSLESPROUTS, CA, 25LB	26.00	28.00
CABBAGE, NY, 50 LB, MED	12.00	16.00
CABBAGE, NJ, 50 LB, LGE	12.00	16.00
CABBAGE, RED, NJ, 50 LB, M-L	20.00	22.00
CABBG, SAVOY, NY, 50LB, M-L	16.00	18.00
CABBG, CHNESE, NJ, 50LB, 12	20.00	22.00
CARROTS, CA, BNCHED, 24	20.00	22.00
COLLARDS, NJ, BNCHED, 12	13.00	16.00
GARLIC, ELEPH, CA, #7, 10LB	42.00	44.00
GARLIC, WH, CA, SPRCL, 30LB	75.00	75.00
ONION, WH, BOILER, ID, 25LB, S	18.00	18.00
ONION, YLW BOILER, NY, 25LB	6.00	7.00
ONION, GLOBE, YEL, NY, L, 10LB	3.00	5.00
ONION, GLBE, RED, NY, M, 25LB	11.00	13.00
RADISHES, NJ, BNCHD, 24	15.00	16.00
TURNIP, PRPLTOP, MI, 25LB, L	13.00	13.00

SPECIAL FEEDER CATTLE SALE

Vintage Sales Stables. Price Per cwt.

Feeder Steers - Med & Large 1		
400-500 lbs	122.00	152.00
500-600 lbs	122.00	145.00
600-700 lbs	600.00	900.00
Holstein Steers - Large 3		
300-500 lbs	70.00	72.00
500-600 lbs	51.00	72.00
600-700 lbs	53.00	55.00
700-800 lbs	65.00	69.00
800-900 lbs	50.00	67.00
Feeder Heifers - Med & Large 1		
300-400 lbs	90.00	100.00
400-500 lbs	100.00	127.00
500-600 lbs	92.00	115.00

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Scottish Highlands. The illuminated vegetables supposedly ward off evil spirits or represented supernatural spirits. The custom spread to England and then to America, where John Greenleaf Whittier wrote a poem in 1807 about carving pumpkins. The word 'jack o'lantern' originally described will-o-the-wisp, or strange light flickering over peat bogs.

8. The Connecticut Field pumpkin, one of the oldest pumpkin in existence, has been the standard carving pumpkin since 1871. Jack Howden developed a variety of it, called the Howden, which has a more symmetrical shape. It got its name from the place where the original was found: Connecticut.



Pumpkins at Woodstock Orchards in Woodstock

HARVEST NEW ENGLAND ACCEPTING GRAPHIC DESIGN/PRINTER APPLICATIONS

Harvest New England is accepting applications for a graphic designer and printer to produce a 12-page promotional mailer and 28 +/- page conference program for the 2019 Harvest New England Agricultural Marketing Conference and Trade Show. The conference will be held February 27-28, 2019 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel in Sturbridge, MA. Deadline for proposals is November 1, 2018.

For more information read the full Request for Proposal at <https://www.harvestnewengland.org/events/>

FINAL WEEK FOR 2018 PASSPORT TO CONNECTICUT FARM WINERIES

The 2018 Passport to Connecticut Farm Wineries program administered by the Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council to foster growth of the farm winery industry in our state will conclude on Sunday, November 4, 2018.

Winery enthusiasts are reminded to return their qualified passport to a participating farm winery no later than November 4 to be eligible for the drawing of nearly 60 prizes, including a two-week trip for two to Malaga, Spain.

Passports must have a minimum of 12 stamps to qualify for the drawing on December 6, 2018.

Visit www.PassporttoCTFarmWine.com for more information on participating wineries, prizes, and complete rules of the program.

ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

80-R. Christmas greens: wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Excellent for fundraisers. 203-457-1344.

84-R. Tunis ram – He's a proven breeder, approx. 250 lbs. Contact Jamie at 203-556-1833.

85-R. Round bale metal hay rack - \$50. Truck mount 8 HP leaf vacuum - \$125. 203-266-0722.

86-R. IH 2 row corn planter to fit IH-"H" tractor. Chains, sprockets, extra plates, etc. \$200. Call David 203-453-9865.

91-R. Farm for sale. 9.2 acre about 40,000 sq. ft. greenhouses in Eastford, CT. Used to produce lettuce, cucumbers, herbs, tomatoes. \$299,900. Negotiable. 860-336-8000.

92-R. Christmas Trees: Wholesale Fraser Fir and Balsam Fir. Excellent shape, color, spray program. Dzen Farms, 860-648-1355.

93-R. Border collie pups - \$800.00. Males, females. Black and white. Ready Nov. 1st. 203-263-4725, eveningstardodd@charter.net

WANTED

7-R. Livestock wanted: Dairy cattle, heifers of any age, beef cows, bulls, steers, feeder cattle, veal, groups of sheep and goats. RyanM01@comcast.net or 860-655-0958. If no answer, leave message. All calls returned.

87-R. Livestock trailer, any size or condition. Call Bruce 860-465-7543.

88-R. Seeking rear differential for an International truck, or entire International truck for parts. Call Bruce 860-465-7543.

MISCELLANEOUS

89-R. Bulldozing in Eastern CT. Farm ponds up to 3 acres. Need farm water, call Don Kemp. Also, land clearing. 860-546-9500.

2018

PASSPORT

to

Connecticut

Farm Wineries

Connecticut Farm Wine

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



Issue Location:

SHOP CONNECTICUT GROWN

Get a jump start on your holiday shopping at www.ConnecticutGrownStore.com. We're celebrating the fall season with huge savings on apparel for the whole family.

Shop the fall overstock sale early for the largest selection of sizes and colors in your favorite Connecticut Grown apparel and gift items. Quantities are limited and sale pricing applies to in stock items only. Free shipping is available on all orders of \$75.00 or more.

There is also a limited supply of Connecticut Grown tents still available. If you did not order one earlier in the year, or would like a few extra on hand for the 2019 season, now is the time to place your order. Please note that tents are pick up only and instructions will be sent following your order confirmation.



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